

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) Method for operating a manure transport device for livestock breeding operations with a manure conveyor belt driven in a circulating manner, arranged underneath a manure-permeable stall floor, with two driven return rollers about which the belt circulates, characterized in that both driven return rollers are driven intermittently in the same direction at a different rotational speed and each return roller is driven more quickly or more slowly at intervals.

2. (Original) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that the different rotational speeds of the two driven return rollers are controlled by frequency controllers.

3. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that the respective duration of the drive of the return rollers is between 1 and 4 minutes.

4. (Currently amended) Method according to ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the rotational speed of the roller driven more quickly is approx. 1.5 rpm for a roller diameter of approx. 90-110 mm.

5. (Currently amended) Method according to ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the rotational speed of the return roller driven more slowly is approx. 1 rpm with a roller diameter of approx. 90-110 mm.

6. (Original) Manure transport device for livestock breeding operations, comprising a circulating manure conveyor belt (1) arranged underneath a manure-permeable stall floor and guided around driven return rollers (2, 3), the one return roller (3) of which conveyor belt is adjustably supported for tensioning the belt, characterized in that

a) The manure conveyor belt (1) is embodied to be liquid-permeable,

b) A manure collection channel (6) is assigned to the discharge end of the upper belt half (4) and a urine collection channel (7) is assigned to the discharge end of the lower belt half (5),

c) At least the lower belt half (5) runs in a liquid-tight trough (9).

7. (Original) Manure transport device according to claim 6, characterized in that the manure conveyor belt (1) comprises a perforated plastic belt.

8. (Currently amended) Manure transport device according to claim 6 or 7, characterized in that the return rollers (2, 3) are made of stainless steel.

9. (Original) Manure transport device according to claim 6, characterized in that the ground side of the trough (9) is formed by a plastic sheet.

10. (Currently amended) Manure transport device according to ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~ claim 6, characterized in that the walls (10, 11) of the trough (9) are formed by concrete strips.

11. (Original) Manure transport device according to claim 10, characterized by wall elements (28) of plastic to accommodate the concrete, respectively comprising a vertical wall (12), a horizontal base element (14) and an inclined roof part (15) that projects in an inclined manner at least into the interior of the trough.

12. (Original) Manure transport device according to claim 11, characterized in that the roof part (15) also projects to the rear of the vertical wall (12).

13. (Currently amended) Manure transport device according to ~~one or more of preceding claims~~ claim 11 or 12, characterized by tubular eyelets (16) at least on the inside of the vertical walls (12) to accommodate bars or wires (19) to connect the wall elements (28) in the longitudinal direction.

14. (Currently amended) Manure transport device according to ~~one or more of preceding claims~~ claim 11 through 13, characterized by perforated sheet metal elements (17) to connect the wall elements (28) in the transverse direction.

15. (Currently amended) Manure transport device according to ~~one or more of preceding claims~~ claim 6 through 14, characterized by bearing rods (20) for the upper belt half (4) supported in the walls (10, 11).